

# THE TELEGRAPH KEY

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THE OFFICIAL DISPATCH FOR THE  
MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920, SCV  
AND  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM GREGG CHAPTER #268, MOSB  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

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## NO JANUARY CAMP MEETING

All compatriots are reminded that the next regular meeting of the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 will be on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We will be meeting at Zarda's Barbecue located on the southwest corner of 87<sup>th</sup> Street and Quivira in Lenexa, Kansas. We will meet between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m. for dinner and start the official meeting at 7:00.

**HOWEVER THERE WILL BE NO CAMP MEETING IN JANUARY. IN LIEU OF THE CAMP MEETING WE WILL HAVE THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LEE-JACKSON BANQUET ON SATURDAY 24 JANUARY 2009. DETAILS LATER IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**

## Editorial Byline and Stuff

"The Telegraph Key" is the newsletter for the Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920 and the Captain William H. Gregg Chapter, MOS&B, of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). The SCV is a non-profit organization with a patriotic, historical and genealogical orientation and is not affiliated with any other organization. Opinions in this newsletter reflect the views of the writers and are not necessarily a statement of the views of the SCV, the Kansas Division, the Kansas Brigades, nor any other camp. Comments and articles are solicited.

### Officers:

### Key Camp

### Gregg Chapter

Commander:	James L. Speicher	Scott Porter
1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander:	Lee Crutchfield	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander:	Roger Strout	
Interim 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander	John Weir	
Adjutant:	C. Heath Roland	
Chaplain:	Thomas Ellis	
Historian & Scrapbook:	Loren Lundy	
Web Master:	John Weir	
Newsletter Editor:	James L. Speicher	
Media Coordinator	Lane Smith	
Cadet Member Coordinator	Lee Crutchfield	

### Key Camp On The Web

Key Camp: [www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org](http://www.majorkey1920ksscvc.org)

SCV National: [www.scvc.org](http://www.scvc.org)

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## Welcome New Members #??100??

Over the past several months we have done very well on recruiting. We have picked up six new members recently. That is awesome but we can do better. We live on the largest metropolitan area in the state and we should easily have over 100 members in our camp. 2008 proved to be very lucrative for us in recruiting so let's make 2009 even more lucrative. As of press time we have 75 members (69 Regular, 3 Associate and 3 Fellowship). Let's see if we can hit 100 in 2009. Wouldn't that be awesome since our camp will have its 100<sup>th</sup> meeting and Loren Lundy will turn 100 years young. Wouldn't it be neat to say that our camp recruited its 100<sup>th</sup> member. WOW! So we know our goal. What can you do to help YOUR camp reach that golden 100 members? I know we can do it so let's GO!!!!

## Kansas Division Executive Committee Meeting

On Saturday December 6, 2008, Kansas Division Commander Denver Erickson held his mid-year Executive Committee meeting. The meeting was in Emporia, Kansas at our usual watering hole, the Best Western Hotel. We met at 10:00 a.m. with Commander Erickson calling the meeting to order. In attendance were Jesse Estes for Camp #1847, Paul Honaker as Division adjutant, Charlie Wilson for Camp #2064, Jack Sanders for Camp #1854, Ed Kennedy for Camp #1857, Chip Buckner as Division Staff Judge Advocate, Heath Booth as Indian Brigade Commander, and yours truly for Camp #1920. A lot of administrative subjects were discussed. The short version follows: 1) Division elections to be held in 2009 with results at the Division Convention in Emporia on Saturday June 20. Commander Erickson has agreed to run again for commander. Commander Jack Sanders has agreed to run for Lieutenant Commander, which is his current position. 2) It was agreed 8 to 1 to propose a constitutional amendment concerning Project Locate. It would form a committee to coordinate and check all headstone applications to avoid mistaken placement (ie. a Confederate headstone on a Yankee grave), and to ensure compliance with Federal requirements that the grave MUST be unmarked to receive a Confederate headstone from the VA Department. 3) It was unanimously decided to lower the fee for the convention by going back to just sandwiches for lunch and charging only 50 cents over cost per person. 4) The Maryland Division has a problem with credentialing at its convention that is currently being heard at the national level. For us to avoid the same problem it was decided to use the same method of credentialing that SCV National uses at Conventions. There will be delegates to vote based on the number of members in the camp. 5) Commander Wilson presented a list of ten graves that were previously marked with Confederate headstones that are not on the correct graves. Some

are on Yankee graves while others were on graves of people who never served in the war. This is what the Project Locate Committee hopes to avoid in the future.

6) It was noted that General Orders were repugnant to some commanders because it indicated a dictatorship or military organization and not a volunteer organization.

It will be left to the division commander to determine what he wants to call them, such as policy memorandums or whatever. 7) The last item was the determination that the division will supply condolence flowers only upon the death of a compatriot or his wife. In all other cases the division will send a card. It is up to the camps if they wish to do anything additional. One item was added to the agenda that day. I requested money from the division for some landscape improvements and clean up around the Mine Creek Confederate Monument. First Lieutenant Commander Lee Crutchfield had put together three options and the cost for each. I recommended the first and most expensive option and it was accepted. The division will cover the cost of just over \$300 for the materials. We will purchase the items in the spring and do the work at our spring workday. After the meeting we adjourned to the restaurant for a great lunch before heading home. All in all it was a very good and friendly meeting and we did accomplish a lot in two and a half hours.

## **Lee-Jackson Banquet**

The banquet is coming! The banquet is coming! Just as Paul Revere announced the arrival of the British I am pleased to announce the coming of the Eighth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet. This is already shaping up to be the biggest and best banquet yet. There will be lots of great friends, lots of great food, lots of laughter and, best of all, the superb camaraderie with other Southerners as we celebrate the birthdays of both General Lee and General Jackson. I've been told that this banquet surpasses in quality what most camps back east do for their banquets. Those camps have many times the numbers of members we have and yet we have an event that surpasses theirs. What a compliment! What an endorsement! Guess we have to keep up the tradition of excellence and so we will. The Eighth Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet will be held on Saturday evening January 24, 2009, at the Grinter Place Historic Site (same as last year). This exciting evening will start with a half hour of friendship and verbal exchange. Dinner will start at 6:30. Following a few presentations we will have our guest speaker (more on him in a minute). That will be followed by our fantastic live auction. We have some wonderful items to auction off this year so you definitely want to attend for that alone. Remember to bring your wallets and checks books (we don't take credit cards but will take IOUs) because this is the Key Camp's major fund raising event for the entire year. If we don't make sufficient money on the auction we will be looking at conducting a bake sale in the Bannister Mall. We will close the banquet with our traditional Candlelight Ceremony in honor of our Confederate ancestors. Our speaker this year is an awesome individual. Several of us heard him speak at Waverly recently and he kept his audience well entertained. His pseudonym is "Senator Robert Whitetrash, All the Honesty Money Can Buy". He will be discussing the Missouri Southern Soldier and he promises that it will be a most interesting

presentation in every respect. The cost of the banquet has again been held to \$20.00 per person. This may have to go up next year but for this banquet it is only \$20.00 per person. Official invitations will be sent out shortly but reservations can be made to Adjutant Heath Roland using the form below. Be advised that we can only accommodate ninety (90) people at Grinter Place so get your reservations in early to ensure a seat. Be prepared to have the evening of your life. Casual attire, business casual attire, formal attire and period attire are all acceptable modes of dress for the banquet. No cut-off blue jeans and flip-flops will be allowed. Register now.

## The William H. Gregg Chapter #268 of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars



In the Military Order of the Stars and Bars (MOSB), our main focus as descendants of Confederate officers and the civilian Confederate government is to emphasize faith in Christ, family and tradition, and to preserve Confederate history for posterity.

### CONFEDERATE HISTORY: REMEMBERING GENERALS ROBERT E. LEE AND THOMAS J. "STONEWALL" JACKSON



**Robert Edward Lee** is THE idol of the South to this day. A Virginian and the son of Revolutionary War hero "Light Horse" Harry Lee, he attended West Point where he did not earn a single demerit! A graduate of the class of 1829, he was posted to the engineers. During the Mexican War he served on the staffs of John Wool and Winfield Scott and distinguished himself scouting for and guiding troops (he won three brevets and was slightly wounded at Chapultepec).

Following a stint in Baltimore Harbor, he became superintendent of West Point in 1852. In 1855, Lee accepted the lieutenant colonelcy of the 2nd Cavalry. Ordered to western Texas, he served with his regiment until the 1857 death of his father-in-law forced him to ask for a series of leaves to settle the estate.

In 1859, Lee put an end to John Brown's Harper's Ferry Raid (this in itself makes him a hero). Thereafter he served again in Texas until summoned to Washington in 1861 by Winfield Scott, who then offered Lee command of the Union's field forces. But the proud Virginian rejected the offer. He then resigned his US officer's commission on April 25, 1861 and shortly afterwards accepted a commission in the Confederate States Army.

In the first summer of the war Lee was given his first field command in western Virginia. Early in 1862 he was

recalled to Richmond and made an advisor to President Davis. From this position he had some influence over military operations, especially those of Stonewall Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley. When Joseph E. Johnston launched his attack at Seven Pines, Davis and Lee rode out to the field of battle. Johnston was badly wounded, and that night President Davis instructed Lee to take command of what he renamed the Army of Northern Virginia. In a daring move, Lee left a small force in front of Richmond and crossed the Chickahominy to strike a Union corps north of the river. Lee, in a brilliant move, achieved the strategic goal of removing Federal General McClellan's army from the very gates of Richmond.

With McClellan neutralized, a new threat developed under Federal General John Pope in northern Virginia. Lee detached Jackson and then followed with Longstreet's command. Winning at Second Bull Run, he moved on into Maryland but suffered the misfortune of having a copy of his orders detailing the disposition of his divided forces fall into the hands of the enemy. McClellan moved with unusual speed and Lee was forced to fight a delaying action along South Mountain while waiting for Jackson to complete the capture of Harpers Ferry and rejoin him. He masterfully fought McClellan to a standstill at Antietam and two days later re-crossed the Potomac.

Near the end of the year, he soundly defeated Burnside at Fredericksburg (see last month's newsletter) and then trounced Hooker in his most amazing victory of the war... at Chancellorsville. In his second invasion of the North, Lee lost at Gettysburg. From the Wilderness to Petersburg, he fought a retiring campaign against Grant in which he made full use of entrenchments, becoming known as "Ace of Spades" Lee. Finally forced into a siege, he held on to Richmond and Petersburg for nearly 10 months before beginning his retreat to Appomattox, where he finally surrendered.

Lee returned to Richmond as a paroled prisoner of war, and submitted with the utmost composure to an altered destiny. He devoted the rest of his life to setting an example of conduct for other thousands of ex-Confederates. He refused a number of offers which would have secured substantial means for his family. Instead, he assumed the presidency of Washington College (now Washington and Lee University) in Lexington, Virginia, and his reputation revitalized the school after the war. Lee's enormous wartime prestige, both in the North and South, and the devotion inspired by his unconscious symbolism of the "Lost Cause" made him a legendary figure even before his death. He died on October 12 1870, of heart disease which had plagued him since the spring of 1863, at Lexington, Va. and is buried there. Somehow, his application for restoration of citizenship was mislaid, and it was not until the 1970's that it was found and granted.

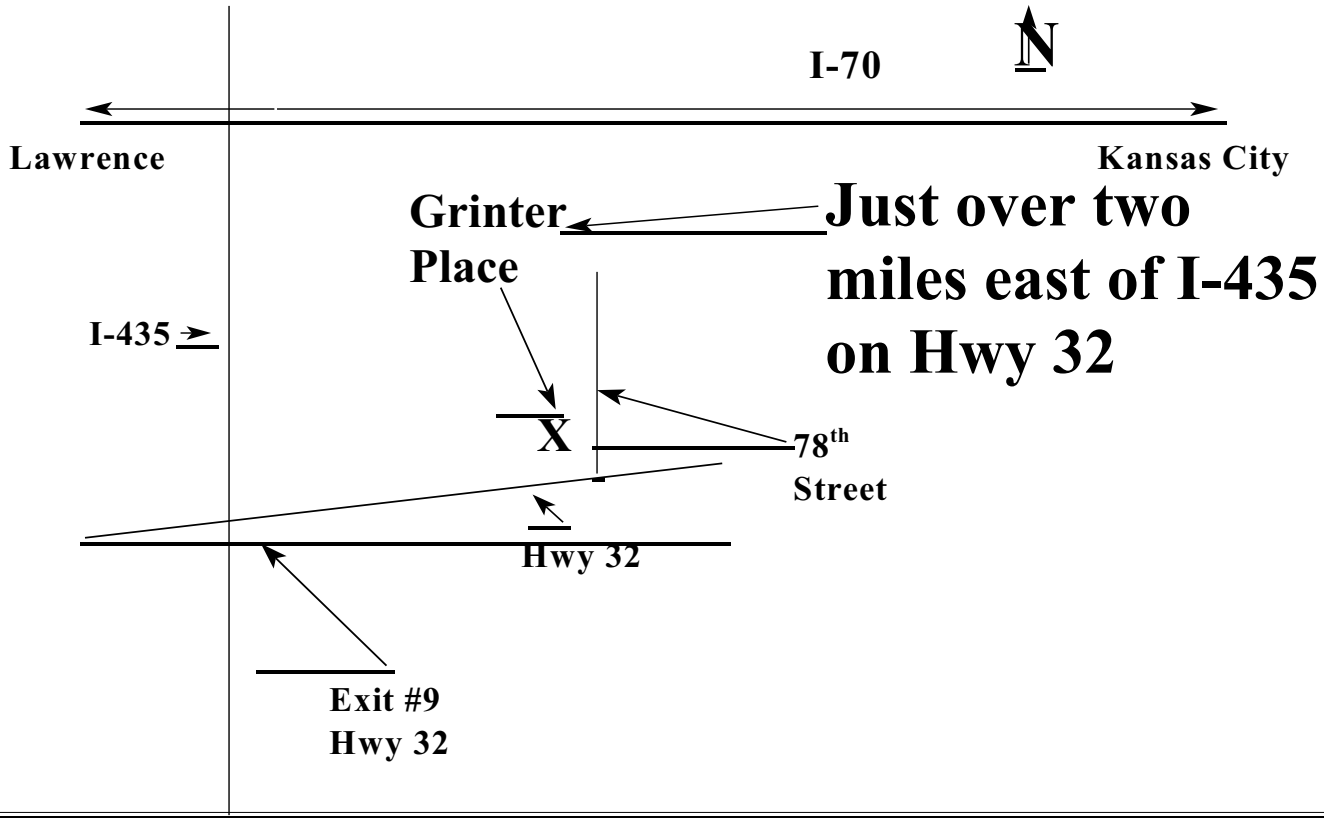


**Thomas Jonathan Jackson** was born on January 21, 1824 in Clarksburg, Virginia. He entered West Point in July 1842 and, in spite of his poor childhood education, worked hard to graduate seventeenth in his class in 1846. Upon graduation, Jackson deployed to Mexico, and continued his service in the United States Army in positions in New York and Florida. In 1851, Jackson became professor of artillery tactics and natural philosophy at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. He resigned from the army as of February 29, 1852. On April 21, 1861 he was ordered to go to Richmond as part of the cadet corps.

It was during the Battle of Bull Run when Jackson assumed his nickname. Amidst the tumult of battle, Brigadier-General Barnard E. Bee stated, "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall." As the war continued, Jackson continually impressed his Confederate compatriots with his skills as a commander on the battlefield. He distinguished himself in the Valley campaign of early 1862, the Battle of Second Manassas in August 1862, and the Battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862. Jackson was a Southern hero, and he was loved and respected by his soldiers. He strictly observed the Sabbath, and his religious faith was imbedded in all facets of his life.

On May 2, 1863, General Jackson was wounded by friendly fire. He died of pneumonia several days later on May 10 at Guiney's Station, Virginia. His body was carried to Richmond and then to Lexington for burial. It is said that The Army of Northern Virginia never fully recovered from the loss of Stonewall Jackson's leadership in battle. General Lee stated that General Jackson "was irreplaceable".

**Deo Vindice!**



## 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LEE-JACKSON BANQUET

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to "Major Thomas J. Key Camp" for the following individuals at \$20.00 per person:

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\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail reservation form and check to:**

Adjutant Heath  
Roland 2824 North  
72<sup>nd</sup> Street Kansas  
City, Kansas

**REMINDER!**

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE**

**MAJOR THOMAS J. KEY CAMP #1920**

**WILL BE THE**

**LEE-JACKSON BANQUET SATURDAY**

**24 JANUARY 2009**

*The Telegraph Key*

*Major Thomas J. Key Camp #1920  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
7325 Oakview Street  
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